

Office of Personnel Management

1632.170

under the contract. Amounts which exceed allowable costs may be paid to a major subcontractor only from the service charge negotiated between OPM and the Carrier.

PART 1632—CONTRACT FINANCING

Subpart 1632.1—General

Sec.

1632.170 Recurring premium payments to carriers.

1632.171 Clause—community-rated contracts.

1632.172 Clause—experience-rated contracts.

Subpart 1632.6—Contract Debts

1632.607 Tax credit.

1632.617 Contract clause.

Subpart 1632.7—Contract Funding

1632.770 Contingency reserve payments.

1632.771 Non-commingling of FEHBP funds.

1632.772 Contract clause.

Subpart 1632.8—Assignment of Claims

1632.806-70 Contract clause.

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 8913; 40 U.S.C. 486(c); 48 CFR 1.301.

SOURCE: 52 FR 16043, May 1, 1987, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart 1632.1—General

1632.170 Recurring premium payments to carriers.

(a)(1) *Recurring payments to carriers of community-rated plans.* OPM will pay to carriers of community-rated plans the premium payments received for the plan less the amounts credited to the contingency and administrative reserves, amounts assessed under paragraph (a)(2) of this section, and amounts due for other contractual obligations. Premium payments will be due and payable not later than 30 days after receipt by the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Fund.

(2) The sum of the two performance factors applicable under 1609.7101-2 will be multiplied by the carrier's total net-to-carrier premium dollars paid for the preceding contract period. The amount obtained after the total premium is multiplied by the sum of the factors will be withheld from the carrier's

periodic premium payment payable during the first quarter of the following contract period unless an alternative payment arrangement is made with the carrier's contracting officer. OPM will deposit the withheld funds in the carrier's contingency reserve for the plan. The aggregate amount withheld annually for performance for any carrier will not exceed one percent of premium for any contract period.

(b)(1) *Recurring payments to carriers of experience-rated plans.* OPM will make payments on a letter of credit (LOC) basis. Premium payments received for the plan, less the amounts credited to the contingency and administrative reserves and amounts for other obligations due under the contract, will be made available for carrier drawdown not later than 30 days after receipt by the FEHB Fund.

(2) Withdrawals from the LOC account will be made on a checks-presented basis. Under a checks-presented basis, drawdown on the LOC is delayed until the checks issued for FEHB Program disbursements are presented to the carrier's bank for payment.

(3) OPM may grant a waiver of the restriction of LOC disbursements to a checks-presented basis if the carrier requests the waiver in writing and demonstrates to OPM's satisfaction that the checks-presented basis of LOC disbursements will result in significantly increased liability under the contract, or that the checks-presented basis of LOC disbursements is otherwise clearly and significantly detrimental to the operation of the plan. Payments to carriers that have been granted a waiver may be made by an alternative payment methodology, subject to OPM approval.

(c) *Exceptions for the 3-Year DoD Demonstration Project (10 U.S.C. 1108).* (1) Carriers will create and maintain separate risk pools for demonstration project experience and regular FEHB experience for the purpose of establishing separate premium rates.

(2) OPM will create and maintain a demonstration project Contingency Reserve separate from the regular FEHB Contingency Reserve for each carrier participating in the demonstration project.

(3) Carriers will account separately for health benefits charges paid using demonstration project funds and regular FEHB funds. Direct administrative costs attributable solely to the demonstration project will be fully chargeable to the demonstration project. Indirect administrative costs associated with the demonstration project will be allocated to the demonstration project based on the percentage obtained by dividing the dollar amount of claims processed under the demonstration project by the dollar amount of total claims processed for FEHB Program activity.

(4) The same percentage used to determine indirect cost allocation will also be used to determine the amount of an experience-rated carrier's service charge that will be allocated to the demonstration project.

(5) Experience-rated carriers participating in the demonstration project will draw funds from their Letter of Credit (LOC) account to pay demonstration project benefits costs in the same manner as they do for benefits costs incurred by regular FEHB members.

(6) Carriers will report on demonstration project revenues, health benefits charges, and administrative expenses as directed by OPM.

(7) Experience-rated carriers will perform a final reconciliation of revenue and costs for the demonstration group at the end of the demonstration project. OPM will reimburse carrier costs in excess of the premiums first from the carrier's demonstration project Contingency Reserve and then from the Employees Health Benefits Fund Administrative Reserve. After the final accounting, OPM will place any surplus demonstration project premiums in the regular Contingency Reserves of all carriers continuing in the FEHB Program for the contract year following the year in which the demonstration project ends. Credit will be in proportion to the amount of subscription charges paid and accrued to each carrier's plan for the last year of the demonstration project.

(8) Community-rated carriers may, at their discretion, request funds from the Employees Health Benefits Fund to mitigate excessive costs in relation to

premiums. If a community-rated carrier requests funds from the Employees Health Benefits Fund to mitigate risk, it will be required to perform annual reconciliations for the duration of the demonstration project. OPM will reimburse carrier costs significantly in excess of the premiums first from the carrier's demonstration project Contingency Reserve and then from the Employees Health Benefits Fund Administrative Reserve. After the final accounting, OPM will place any surplus demonstration project premiums in the regular Contingency Reserves of all carriers continuing in the FEHB Program for the contract year following the year in which the demonstration project ends. Credit will be in proportion to the amount of subscription charges paid and accrued to each carrier's plan for the last year of the demonstration project.

(9) Should the program be extended beyond the 3 year demonstration project period, OPM will regulate to address any necessary changes to these provisions.

[57 FR 14360, Apr. 20, 1992, as amended at 63 FR 55338, Oct. 15, 1998; 64 FR 36272, July 6, 1999; 65 FR 36386, June 8, 2000]

1632.171 Clause—community-rated contracts.

The clause at 1652.232–70 shall be inserted in all community-rated FEHBP contracts.

[57 FR 14360, Apr. 20, 1992]

1632.172 Clause—experience-rated contracts.

The clause at 1652.232–71 shall be inserted in all experience-rated FEHBP contracts.

[57 FR 14360, Apr. 20, 1992]

Subpart 1632.6—Contract Debts

1632.607 Tax credit.

FAR 32.607 has no practical application to FEHBP contracts. The statutory provisions at 5 U.S.C. 8906(c) and (d) authorize joint enrollee and Government contributions to the FEHBP Fund. Because the Fund is comprised of contributions by enrollees as well as the Government, carriers may not offset debts to the Fund by a tax credit

Office of Personnel Management

1633.070

which is solely a Government obligation.

1632.617 Contract clause.

The clause at (FAR) 48 CFR 52.232-17 will be modified in all FEHBP contracts to exclude the words “net of any applicable tax credit under the Internal Revenue Code (26 U.S.C. 1481).”

[59 FR 14765, Mar. 30, 1994]

Subpart 1632.7—Contract Funding

1632.770 Contingency reserve payments.

(a) Payments from the contingency reserve shall be made in accordance with 5 CFR 890.503.

(b) A carrier for an FEHB plan may apply to OPM at any time for a payment from the contingency reserve that is in addition to those amounts, if any, paid under 5 CFR 890.503(c)(1) through (c)(4), if the carrier can show good cause, such as, unexpected adverse claims experience. OPM will decide whether to allow the request in whole or in part and will advise the carrier of its decision. However, OPM shall not unreasonably withhold approval for amounts requested that exceed the plan's preferred minimum balance for the contingency reserve.

1632.771 Non-commingling of FEHBP funds.

(a) This section applies to contracts based on cost analysis.

(b) Carrier or underwriter commingling of FEHBP funds with those from other sources makes it difficult to precisely determine FEHBP cash balances at any given time or to precisely determine investment income attributable to FEHBP invested assets.

(c) FEHBP funds shall be maintained separately from other cash and invest-

ments of the carrier or underwriter. Cash and investment balances reported on FEHBP Annual Accounting Statements must agree with the carrier's books and records.

(d) This requirement may be waived by the contracting officer in accordance with the clause at 1652.232-70 when adequate accounting and other controls are in effect. If the requirement is waived, the waiver will remain in effect until it is withdrawn by OPM. The waiver shall be withdrawn if OPM determines that the accounting controls are no longer adequate to properly account for FEHBP funds.

1632.772 Contract clause.

The clause at 1652.232-70 shall be included in all contracts that are based on cost analysis.

Subpart 1632.8—Assignment of Claims

1632.806-70 Contract clause.

The clause set forth in 1652.232-73 shall be inserted in all FEHBP contracts.

[55 FR 27415, July 2, 1990]

PART 1633—PROTESTS, DISPUTES, AND APPEALS

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 8913; 40 U.S.C. 486(c); 48 CFR 1.301.

1633.070 Designation of the Board of Contract Appeals.

The Armed Services Board of Contract Appeals (ASBCA) serves as the Board of Contract Appeals for the FEHBP. The rules of procedure followed in a dispute shall be those prescribed by the ASBCA.

[52 FR 16043, May 1, 1987]